Cuba's Vengeance Bloodbath

Castro Men Execute 71

FIDEL CASTRO
. . . Cubans, stay away

HAVANA (CP) — Fresh blood flowed heavily Monday in revolutionary vengeance for what Fidel Castro's Cuban rebels call crimes of the Batista dictatorship.

Rebel officers said firing squads executed 71 persons over a seven-hour period at a military camp outside Santiago and tumbled them into a 40-yard-long mass grave dug by a bulldozer.

Santiago military headquarters declined confirmation. But a huge mound of fresh raw earth was seen by Associated Press correspondent Stanford Bradshaw yesterday at the reported scene of the executions, the Campo de Tiro rifle range, a mile from Santiago.

Nearly 3,000 still face trial on charges ranging from torturing prisoners to treason. Among them is Maj.-Gen. Eulogio Cantillo, who commanded the armed forces for a short time after the fall of Batista's government New Year's Day.

Cantillo and 50 military associates are to be arraigned before revolutionary tribunals later this week in Havana. Castro has accused Cantillo of treason for letting Batista escape to the Dominican Republic.

The weekly news magazine Bohemia Monday carries hundreds of pictures of what it calls Batista terrorism and atrocities and charges that 20,000 Cubans had been killed in the interval after Batista seized power in 1952.

Bradshaw relayed this account of the Camp de Tiro incident as told to him by rebel officers:

The prisoners, described as military men, police officials, civilian spies and informers were moved by trucks to the rifle range in relays.

They were lined up along the trench, 10 feet wide and 10 feet deep. Some prisoners smoked.

Rifles and some automatic weapons cut them down.

Gambling in Cuba Going Respectable?

HAVANA (UPI)—Gambling is going to go "respectable" in Cuba if Fidel Castro has his way.

The 32-year-old revolutionary chief gave notice of his intentions Sunday after most of the big-time American operators who ran the casinos under ousted president Fulgencio Batista, seeing which way the wind was blowing, went into hiding or out of the country.

The gist of Castro's announcement was that gambling would continue for foreign tourists only and provided the new government could find "responsible businessmen" to run the games.

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Filibuster Fighters Defeated

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A powerful bipartisan coalition headed by Senate Democratic leader Lyndon Johnson yesterday smashed two moves by liberals to make it easier to choke off Senate filibusters, especially talkathons against civil rights legislation.

Johnson's own compromise plan now is expected to be approved after a last-ditch fight by southern senators who oppose any relaxation of the rule.

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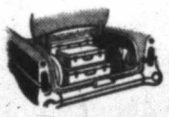

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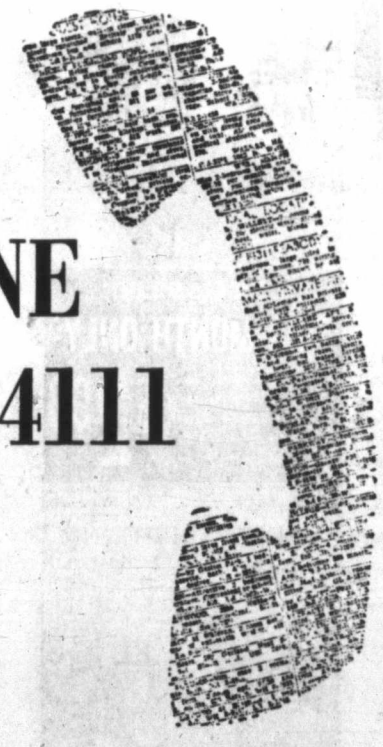

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